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**Sunday 3 August 2025**

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

11.00am

*Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall*

**Welcome** to All Saints for our Sunday worship: we are delighted to have you with us as we encounter God’s love in the words of scripture and the gifts of bread and wine
which we receive at God’s table. Please don’t hesitate to speak to our steward if there is anything we can do to make you more at ease during today’s service; and please do make yourself known if you are joining us for the first time: we’d love to meet you!

Here at All Saints, we are particularly blessed to worship in such a wonderful church building: its spaciousness and its stunningly beautiful decorations help to lift our hearts and minds heavenward. We are very grateful for any donation you might be able to make to help with the upkeep of this great treasure. You can do so either during the service (in cash), or online at: [*https://givealittle.co/c/allsaints*](https://givealittle.co/c/allsaints)

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**THIS WEEK**

Monday 4 August 5.00pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 5 August 5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 6 August 12.30pm Holy Communion (The Transfiguration)

#### UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday 10 August 9.15am Choral Eucharist

Sunday 17 August 10.30am[!] Team Service

 *at St Edward’s Middle School, Leek*

 *[No service at All Saints today]*

**COLLECT**

Lord of all power and might,

the author and giver of all good things:

graft in our hearts the love of your name,

increase in us true religion,

nourish us with all goodness,

and of your great mercy keep us in the same;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

##### OT READING — Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12–14; 2.18–23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me —and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

**PSALM 49.1–12**

Hear this, all you peoples;
   give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
both low and high,
   rich and poor together.
My mouth shall speak wisdom;
   the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
I will incline my ear to a proverb;
   I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.

Why should I fear in times of trouble,
   when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,
those who trust in their wealth
   and boast of the abundance of their riches?
Truly, no ransom avails for one’s life,
   there is no price one can give to God for it.
For the ransom of life is costly,
   and can never suffice,
that one should live on for ever
   and never see the grave.

When we look at the wise, they die;
   fool and dolt perish together
   and leave their wealth to others.
Their graves are their homes for ever,
   their dwelling-places to all generations,
   though they named lands their own.
Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;
   they are like the animals that perish.

##### NT READING — Colossians 3.1–11

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

**GOSPEL READING — Luke 12.13–21**

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ But he said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ And he said to them, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.’ Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

###### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*We pray for those who are unwell:*

The Needham Family, Hazel Cook, Ken Whittaker, Andrew Hall, Riley Corbishley,
Andrew McFadden, Ray Hughes, Lionel Wainscott, Sylvia Cotton, and Gaynor Morton.

*Please pray, too, for the PCC meeting on Monday evening.*

**TODAY’S HYMNS**

Opening Hymn 70 Be Thou My Vision [*sheet*]

Gradual Hymn 225 God of Grace and God of Glory

Offertory Hymn 297 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Communion Hymn 625 Take My Life, and Let It Be

Final Hymn 74 Blessed Assurance

**MAKING ALL SAINTS FIT FOR THE FUTURE**

As we give thanks for the past 140 years of parish life at All Saints, we are invited to consider how this parish church might best continue to serve the needs of its community in the future.

The awe-inspiring beauty of our church notwithstanding, we’re acutely aware of the challenges our building poses: the lack of toilets and kitchen facilities, and the difficulty of accessing the building, limit us in our endeavours at being hospitable and inviting the community into church.

The PCC have commissioned our architect to prepare a number of “schemes” which envisage how we might integrate toilets and a kitchen into church, and how we might improve access. These schemes also include a proposal for new stackable pews and seats, which will make it much easier for us to make the space even more flexible and will allow us to host

many more events (and celebrate beautifully spacious liturgies!) in the future.

The draft schemes are currently on display in church —

please do take a look and speak to Revd Henry or any members of the PCC

and share your thoughts!

**TEAM SERVICE — 17 AUGUST**

Please note that there will be no service at All Saints on Sunday, 17 August. Instead, we will be gathering at St Edward’s Middle School for a joint service with the other churches of the Leek Area Team (10.30am). Hopefully, we will have some good weather, allowing us to gather outside on the playing fields. Please bring a camping chair or similar, as well as a picnic so that we can enjoy some fellowship afterwards.

**SUPPORT THE FOODBANK**

At present, the Foodbank is really struggling to maintain stock levels, needing to spend almost £1,500 this month to keep their offer going. Please consider donating an item or two to ensure that the Foodbank can continue to provide help to everyone who comes through their doors.

Any of these would be particularly helpful: Tinned veg/meat/fruit; rice pudding/custard; Milk (UHT semi-skimmed); Rice: 500g & sachets; Fruit squash; Pasta & pasta sauce; Coffee & tea; Instant mashed potato; Cereals

**OPEN VICARAGE**

Revd Henry will be hosting an Open Vicarage at Cheddleton

on Friday, 15 August, between 3pm and 8pm.

As last year, there will be plenty of tea, cake and laughter —

so do make sure to come along!

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| **CONTACT DETAILS** |
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